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INTERNATIONAL APPLN. NO. PCT/EP00/05522	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 15 June 2000	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 17 June 1999
TITLE OF INVENTION DISCHARGE VALVE FOR CO ₂ -PRESSURE CYLINDERS		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US KIEFER, Rainer		

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
Please cancel original Claims 1-19 and substitute the following new Claims 20-39:

20. A discharge valve for CO₂ pressure cylinders, comprising a flow passage (8) for CO₂ gas, a valve element (10) which is actuable from the exterior and which can assume various positions and which in at least one of said positions closes the flow passage and in at least one other of its positions opens the flow passage through a valve opening, and connecting means for fixedly and sealingly connecting the discharge valve to a CO₂ pressure cylinder, wherein a flow resistance is provided in the flow passage (8), which flow resistance is independent of the valve opening and wherein the flow resistance is such that at a temperature of 20°C and a CO₂ gas flow rate of 0.5 g/s it causes a pressure drop of at least 1 bar.